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### From today's featured article



Tamsin Greig,  
actress

"**Last Gasp**" is the fourth episode of the first series of the British [black comedy](#) anthology television programme *[Inside No. 9](#)*. It first aired on 26 February 2014 on [BBC Two](#). Written by [Steve Pemberton](#) and [Reece Shearsmith](#), the story revolves around the birthday of the severely ill Tamsin—played by [Lucy Hutchinson](#)—whose parents arrange for the singer Frankie J Parsons ([David Bedella](#)) to visit their daughter through the charity WishmakerUK. Frankie dies after blowing up a balloon, leading to arguments between Tamsin's father (Pemberton), the WishmakerUK representative Sally ([Tamsin Greig](#), *pictured*), and Frankie's assistant Si ([Adam Deacon](#)) over the now-valuable balloon containing Frankie's last breath. The story was inspired by someone Pemberton had seen on *[Swap Shop](#)* who collected air from different places. The episode is a [morality tale](#) that [satirizes](#) and critiques [celebrity culture](#). Pemberton subsequently sold a balloon containing his breath on [eBay](#), with proceeds going to a [Sport Relief](#) charity. ([Full article...](#))

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### Did you know ...

- ... that [Ingushetia](#) is often called the "land of towers" after the [Ingush towers](#) (*examples pictured*), unique medieval monuments found throughout the region?
- ... that the album *[Something Like This](#)* by [Ben Rector](#) debuted at number one on iTunes' singer-songwriter album chart five minutes after its release?
- ... that [Maria Leshern von Herzfeld](#) helped to organise the prison escape of the Russian revolutionary [Peter Kropotkin](#)?
- ... that the [Boundary Fire](#) burned 17,788 acres (7,199 ha) of the [Coconino](#) and [Kaibab National Forests](#) in Arizona?
- ... that [Valentine Strudwick](#) enlisted to serve in the First World War at 14 years old?
- ... that *[The Seoul Press](#)* was an English-language newspaper created to justify [Japan's colonial rule of Korea](#)?
- ... that archaeologist [Karl Frederik Kinch](#) identified the location of [Stagira](#), the hometown of [Aristotle](#)?
- ... that the US federal government's "[checking account](#)" held more than \$800 billion at the beginning of February 2024?

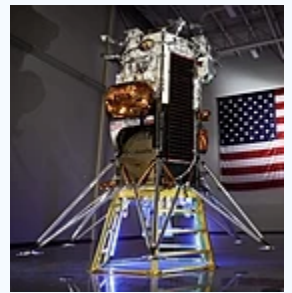


Pyaling, a tower complex in  
Ingushetia

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### In the news

- The *Odysseus* robotic lander (*pictured*) of the **IM-1** mission performs the first **commercial** soft **landing on the Moon**.
- At **the British Academy Film Awards**, *Oppenheimer* wins **Best Film** and six other awards.
- Russian opposition leader **Alexei Navalny** **dies** in a **corrective labor colony** near **Kharp**, at the age of 47.
- In **American football**, the **Kansas City Chiefs** defeat the **San Francisco 49ers** to win **the Super Bowl**.



Odysseus lunar lander

**Ongoing:** [Israel– Hamas war](#) · [Myanmar civil war](#) · [Red Sea crisis](#) · [Russian invasion of Ukraine](#) ([timeline](#))

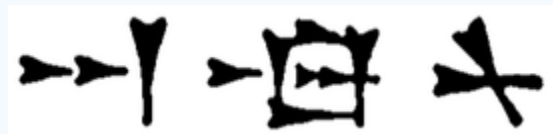
**Recent deaths:** [Robin Windsor](#) · [Andreas Brehme](#) · [Michael O'Regan](#) · [Bobbie Wygant](#) · [Jack Biddle](#) · [Ira von Fürstenberg](#)

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## On this day

### February 26

- **747 BC** – According to [Ptolemy](#), the reign of the [Babylonian](#) king **Nabonassar** (*name in Akkadian pictured*) began, marking a new era characterized by the systematic maintenance of chronologically precise historical records.
- **1914** – **RMS *Britannic***, the third and largest *Olympic-class* ocean liner of the [White Star Line](#) after *RMS *Olympic** and *RMS *Titanic**, was launched at the [Harland & Wolff](#) shipyard in [Belfast](#).
- **1979** – The **Superliner** railcar entered revenue service with [Amtrak](#).
- **2014** – Former editor-in-chief of Hong Kong newspaper *Ming Pao* Kevin Lau **was stabbed**, prompting concerns and protests about media freedom.



Nabonassar's name in Akkadian

**Fatima bint al-Ahmar** (d. 1349) · **Archibald Campbell, 9th Earl of Argyll** (b. 1629) · **Recep Tayyip Erdoğan** (b. 1954) · **Jennie Smillie Robertson** (d. 1981)

More anniversaries: [February 25](#) · **February 26** · [February 27](#)

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## From today's featured list

There have been **137 five-wicket hauls** taken by 121 different players in [Twenty20 International](#) (T20I) [cricket](#). A T20I is an international cricket match between two teams, each having T20I status, as determined by the [International Cricket Council](#), the sport's world governing body. A **five-wicket haul** refers to a [bowler](#) taking five or more [wickets](#) in a single innings. This is regarded as a notable achievement, especially in the Twenty20 format, as bowlers can bowl no more than four overs in an innings. The first five-wicket haul in a T20I match was taken by [Pakistan's Umar Gul](#) (*pictured*) while playing against New Zealand at [The Oval](#) during the **2009 ICC World Twenty20**. Five bowlers have taken a five-wicket haul on T20I debut. [Tanzania's](#) Yalinde Nkanya has taken the most economical five-wicket haul with an [economy rate](#) of just 0.50. He ended with the figures of 5/2 in 4 overs. ([Full list...](#))



Umer Gul

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## Today's featured picture



***The Grands Boulevards*** is an [oil on canvas](#) painting by [Pierre-Auguste Renoir](#), painted in 1875. The painting illustrates a busy Paris boulevard, showing the effects of [the recent renovation of the city](#) by [Georges-Eugène Haussmann](#). It depicts a wide, paved street with a large concrete building to the right of the painting. The influence of [impressionism](#) on Renoir can be seen in the painting through the short brush strokes and a seemingly out of focus view. The work is now in the collection of the [Philadelphia Museum of Art](#).

Painting credit: [Pierre-Auguste Renoir](#)

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- [Village pump](#) – Forum for discussions about Wikipedia itself, including policies and technical issues.
- [Site news](#) – Sources of news about Wikipedia and the broader Wikimedia movement.
- [Teahouse](#) – Ask basic questions about using or editing Wikipedia.
- [Help desk](#) – Ask questions about using or editing Wikipedia.
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- [Content portals](#) – A unique way to navigate the encyclopedia.

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Free media repository



### MediaWiki

Wiki software development



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### Wikidata

Free knowledge base



### Wikinews

Free-content news



### Wikiquote

Collection of quotations



### Wikisource

Free-content library



**Wikispecies**  
Directory of species



**Wikiversity**  
Free learning tools



**Wikivoyage**  
Free travel guide



**Wiktionary**  
Dictionary and thesaurus

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